

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A method of providing remote access to a non-Internet enabled software application for displaying utility data, the method comprising:

providing a host system capable of communicating with a client system over an Internet connection, the host system having an Internet-ready framework;

embedding the non-Internet enabled software application in the Internet-ready framework locally on the host system; and

permitting selective access to the host system by the client system to access and run the non-Internet enabled software application to display utility data.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the utility data are acquired automatically from one or more remote terminal units.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the utility data include power use data.

4. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

prompting a user of the client system to enter a password; and

permitting access to the host system only if the password entered by the user is identical to a predetermined password.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein:

permitting selective access to the host system includes permitting selected access to selected data stored on the host system; and

running the non-Internet enabled software application includes plotting the utility data in a graphical format.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the utility data include a utility consumption time series.

1 7. A computer program, residing on a computer-readable storage medium for providing  
2 remote access to a non-Internet enabled software application for displaying utility data, the  
3 computer program comprising instructions to:

4 provide selective access to a host system capable of communicating with a client  
5 system over an Internet connection, the host system having an Internet-ready framework;  
6 embed the non-Internet enabled software application in the Internet-ready framework  
7 locally on the host system; and

8 permit a client system with access to the host system to run the non-Internet enabled  
9 software application to display utility data.

1 8. The computer program of claim 7 wherein the utility data are acquired automatically  
2 from one or more remote terminal units.

1 9. The computer program of claim 7 wherein the utility data include power use data.

1 10. The computer program of claim 7 further comprising instructions for:  
2 prompting a user of the client system to enter a password; and  
3 permitting access to the host system only if the password entered by the user is  
4 identical to a predetermined password.

1 11. The computer program of claim 7 wherein:  
2 permitting selective access to the host system includes permitting selected access to  
3 selected data stored on the host system; and  
4 running the non-Internet enabled software application includes plotting the utility data  
5 in a graphical format.

1 12. The computer program of claim 11 wherein the utility data include a utility  
2 consumption time series.

1 13. A computer system for providing remote access to a non-Internet enabled software  
2 application for displaying utility data, the system comprising:

3 a host system capable of communicating with a client system over an Internet  
4 connection;

5 an Internet-ready framework running on the host system embedding the non-Internet  
6 enabled software application; and

7 a controller that permits selective access to the host system by the client system to  
8 access and run the non-Internet enabled software application to display utility data.

1 14. The system of claim 13 wherein the utility data are acquired automatically from one  
2 or more remote terminal units.

1 15. The system of claim 13 wherein the utility data include power use data.

1 16. The system of claim 13 wherein the controller:  
2 prompts a user of the client system to enter a password; and  
3 permits access to the host system only if the password entered by the user is identical  
4 to a predetermined password.

1 17. The system of claim 13 wherein the controller permits selective access to the host  
2 system by permitting selected access to selected data stored on the host system, and running  
3 the non-Internet enabled software a application includes plotting the utility data in a  
4 graphical format.

1 18. The system of claim 17 wherein the utility data include a utility consumption time  
2 series.